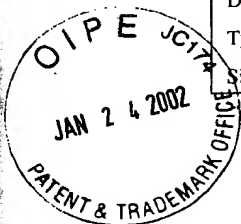


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Date of Deposit: 12/6/2001

Typed Name: Katherine Lopez Diangson

Signature: Katherine Lopez Diangson



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Cao, et al.

Examiner: D. Owens

Serial No.: 09/217,740

Group Art Unit: 2811

Filing Date: 12/21/98

Title: Local Oxidation of a Sidewall Sealed Shallow Trench for Providing Isolation Between Devices of a Substrate

Amendment

Dear Sir:

In an Office Action dated 21 September 2001, having a three-month statutory period expiring 21 December 2001, please amend the application as follows:

STATUS OF APPLICATION

Claims 1,2 and 4-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent No. 4,685,198 to Kawakita, et al.

SUMMARY OF APPLICANT'S INVENTION

The present invention is a semiconductor isolation structure separating two active devices. The isolation structure prevents undesired electrical connections and coupling between two devices. The isolation structure has a deep region and a shallow region. The deep region has a wider cross-sectional area than the shallow region. The deep region includes an oxide, and the shallow region has a protective wall that can be formed from an oxide and a nitride.

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Min Cao et al

Serial No.: 09/217740

Examiner: D. Owens

Filing Date: Dec 21, 1998

Group Art Unit: 2811

Title: Local Oxidation Of A Sidewall Sealed Shallow Trench For Providing Isolation Between Devices Of A Substrate

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is/are the following in the above-identified application:

- (X) Response/Amendment () Petition to extend time to respond
() New fee as calculated below () Supplemental Declaration
(X) No additional fee (Address envelope to "Box Non-Fee Amendments")
() Other: (fee \$)

CLAIMS AS AMENDED BY OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY						
(1) FOR	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEES
TOTAL CLAIMS	5	MINUS	20	= 0	X \$18	\$ 0
INDEP. CLAIMS	2	MINUS	3	= 0	X \$84	\$ 0
[] FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM					+ \$280	\$ 0
EXTENSION FEE	1ST MONTH \$110.00	2ND MONTH \$400.00	3RD MONTH \$920.00	4TH MONTH \$1440.00		\$ 0
OTHER FEES						\$
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						\$ 0

Charge \$ 0 to Deposit Account 50-1078. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-1078 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 50-1078 under 37 CFR 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Date of Deposit: 12/5/2001

Typed Name: Katherine Lopez Diangson

Signature: Katherine Lopez Diangson

Respectfully submitted,

Min Cao et al

By

James C. Pintner

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 33,272

Date: Dec 5, 2001